

MONTHS AND HOURS WORKED AND HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE

Despite the seasonal nature of the job, more than half of farmworkers work 9 months or more (see Chart 7). Nevertheless, they are the group with the smallest percentage of workers working year-round. Two other occupations that appear to be seasonal in nature, general laborers and protective, have two-thirds of their workers working 9 months or more.

Farmworkers typically work more hours. Chart 8 shows that aside from managers, farmworkers have the highest proportion in terms of hours worked. Thirty percent of farmworkers report that they usually work 46 hours or more. This is even more than those working in transportation.

Farmworkers, in part because of the seasonal nature of the job, tend to lack health insurance coverage (see Chart 9). The lack of coverage is not limited to just farmworkers, however. There are five occupations where at least thirty-four percent of the workers lack health insurance. These occupations are private household (45%), farmworkers (40%), assemblers (40%), general laborers (38%), and other service (34%).

Chart 7

Percent of Workers Working Nine Months or More, California 1997

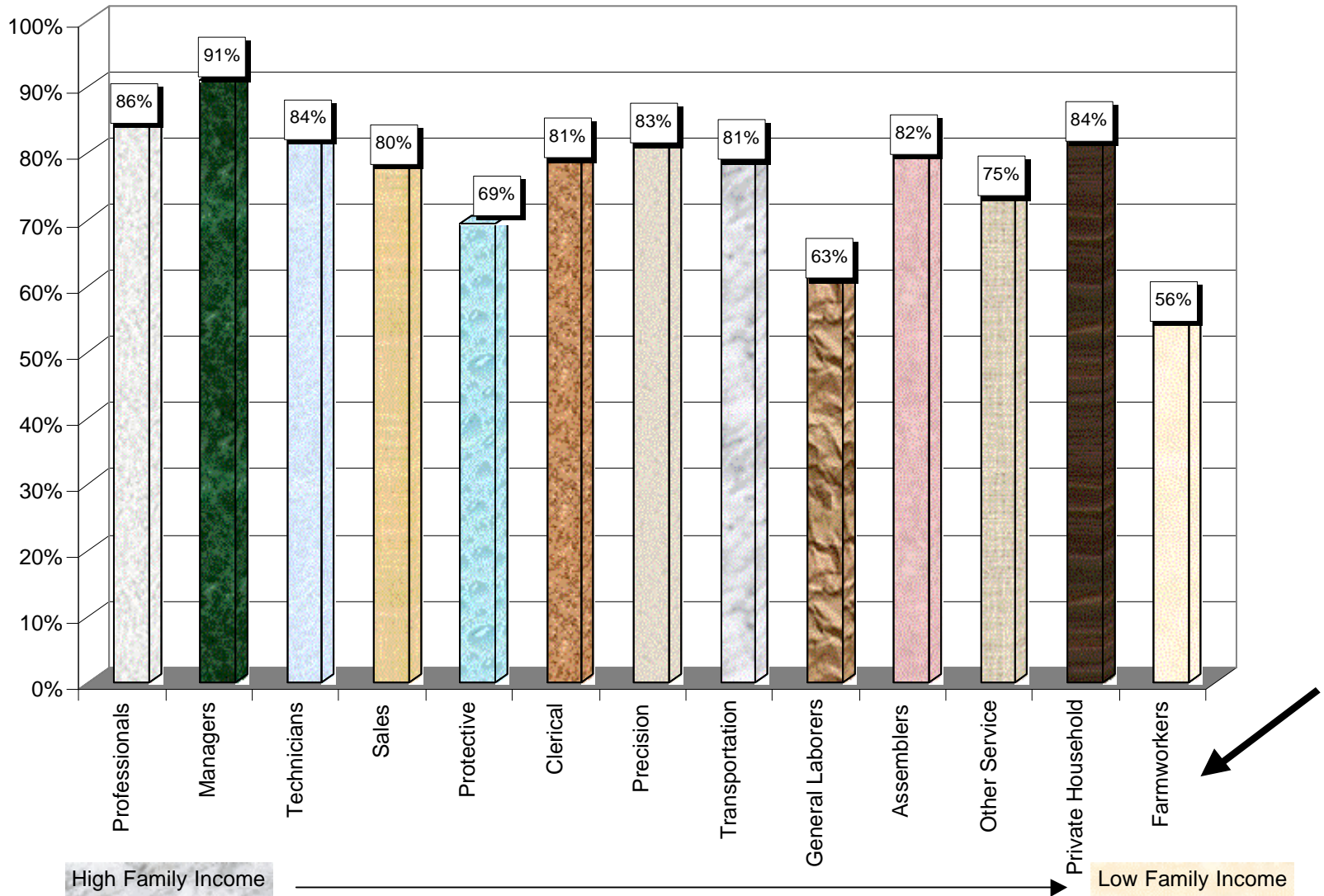


Chart 8

Percent of Workers Working 46 Hours or More, California 1997

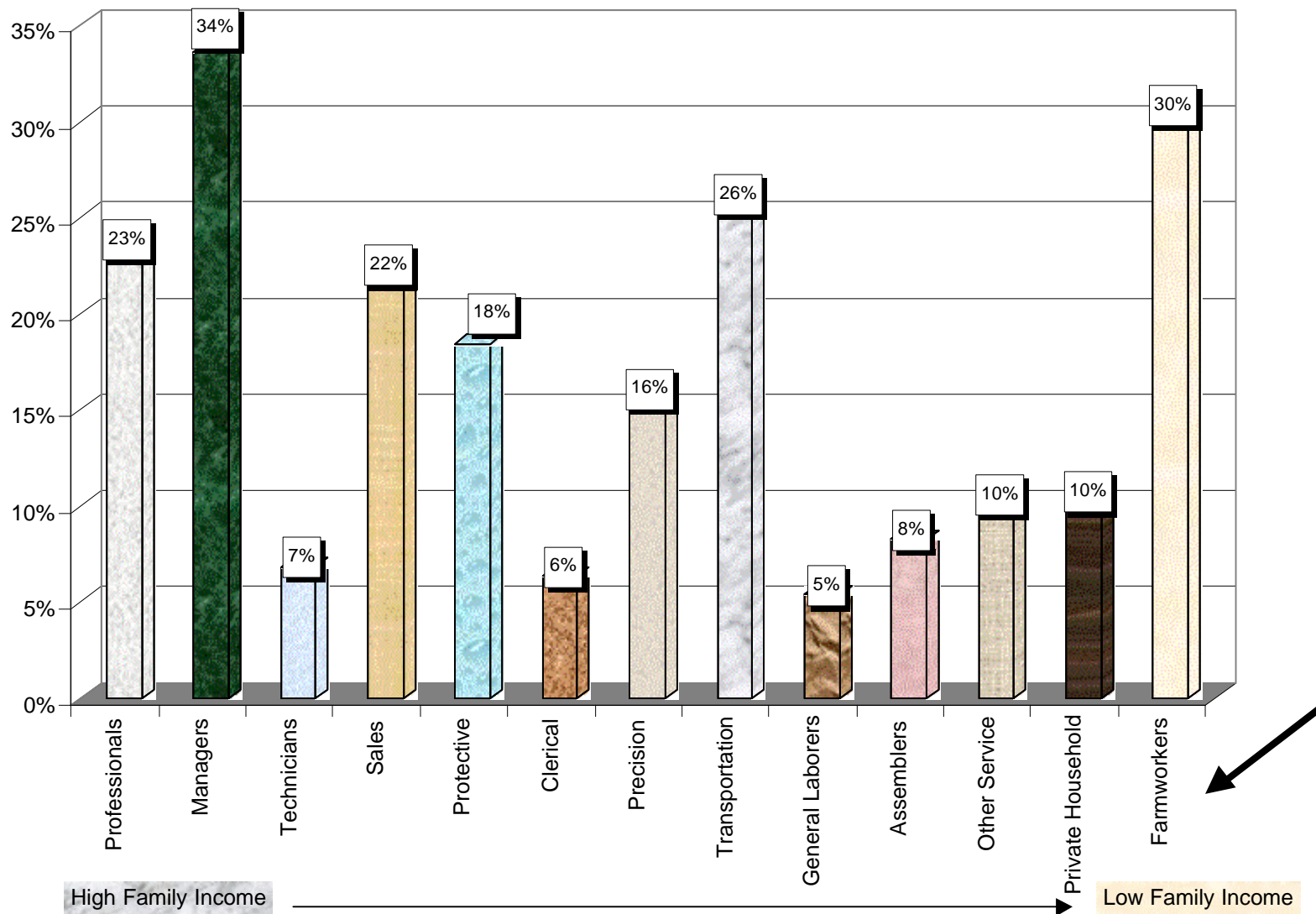
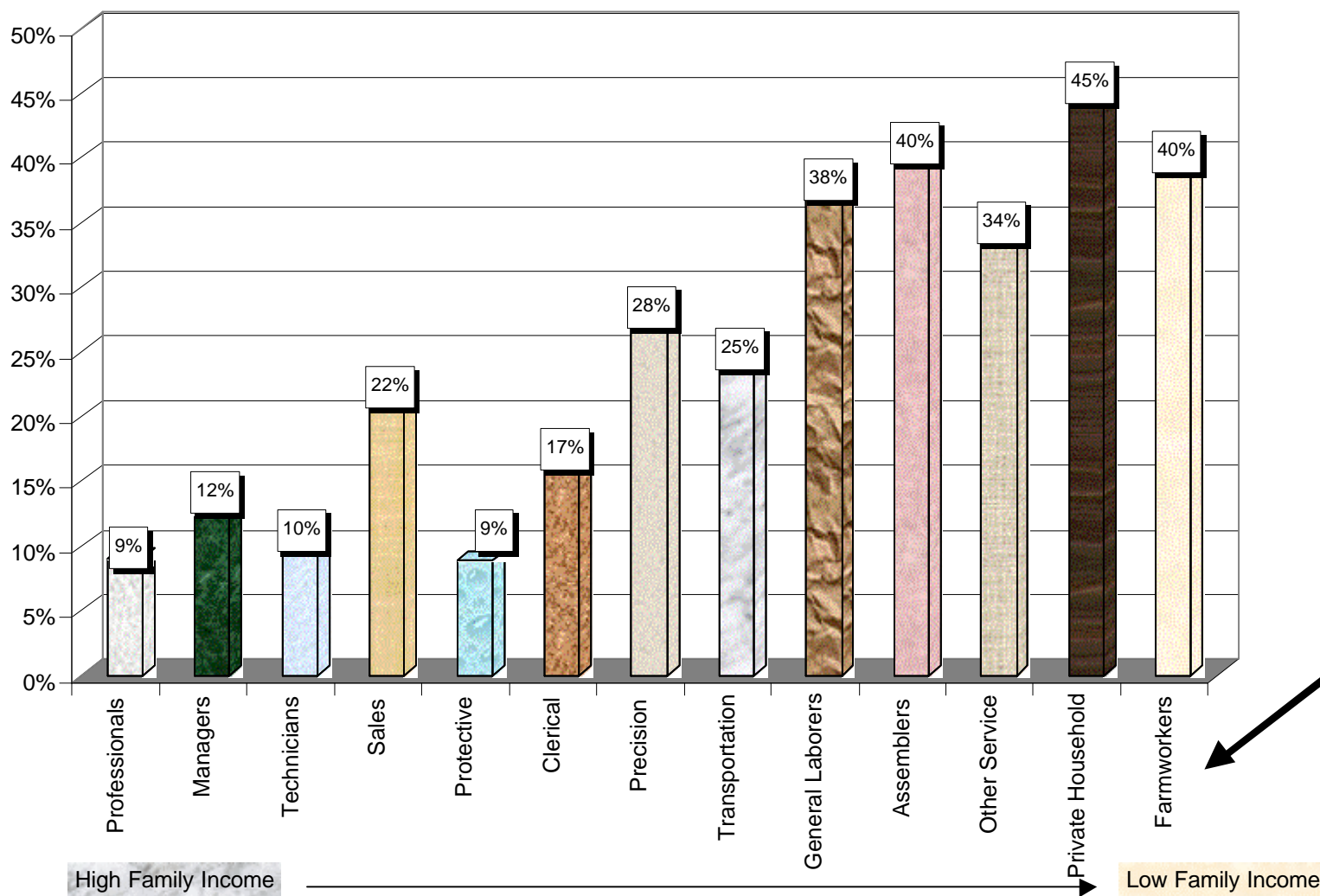


Chart 9

Percent of Workers Without Health Insurance Coverage, California 1997



EDUCATION, LANGUAGE, AND CITIZENSHIP

Out of all the different occupations, farmworkers are by far the least educated. Sixty-nine percent of the workers have less than a high school education (see Chart 10). Some of the other occupations with low levels of education are private household (50%), assemblers (49%), general laborers (40%), and other service (32%).

According to Chart 11, the farmworker occupation is also the one with the highest percentage of workers that do not speak English well (50%). There are two other occupations that have high rates of non-English speakers, private household (36%) and assemblers (30%).

Currently, farmworkers are the least likely to be citizens of the United States, with over two-thirds of the workers not having their citizenship (see Chart 12). There are two other occupations that also have high rates of non-citizenship. These are assemblers (50%) and private household (50%).

Chart 10

Percent of Workers With No High School Diploma, California 1997

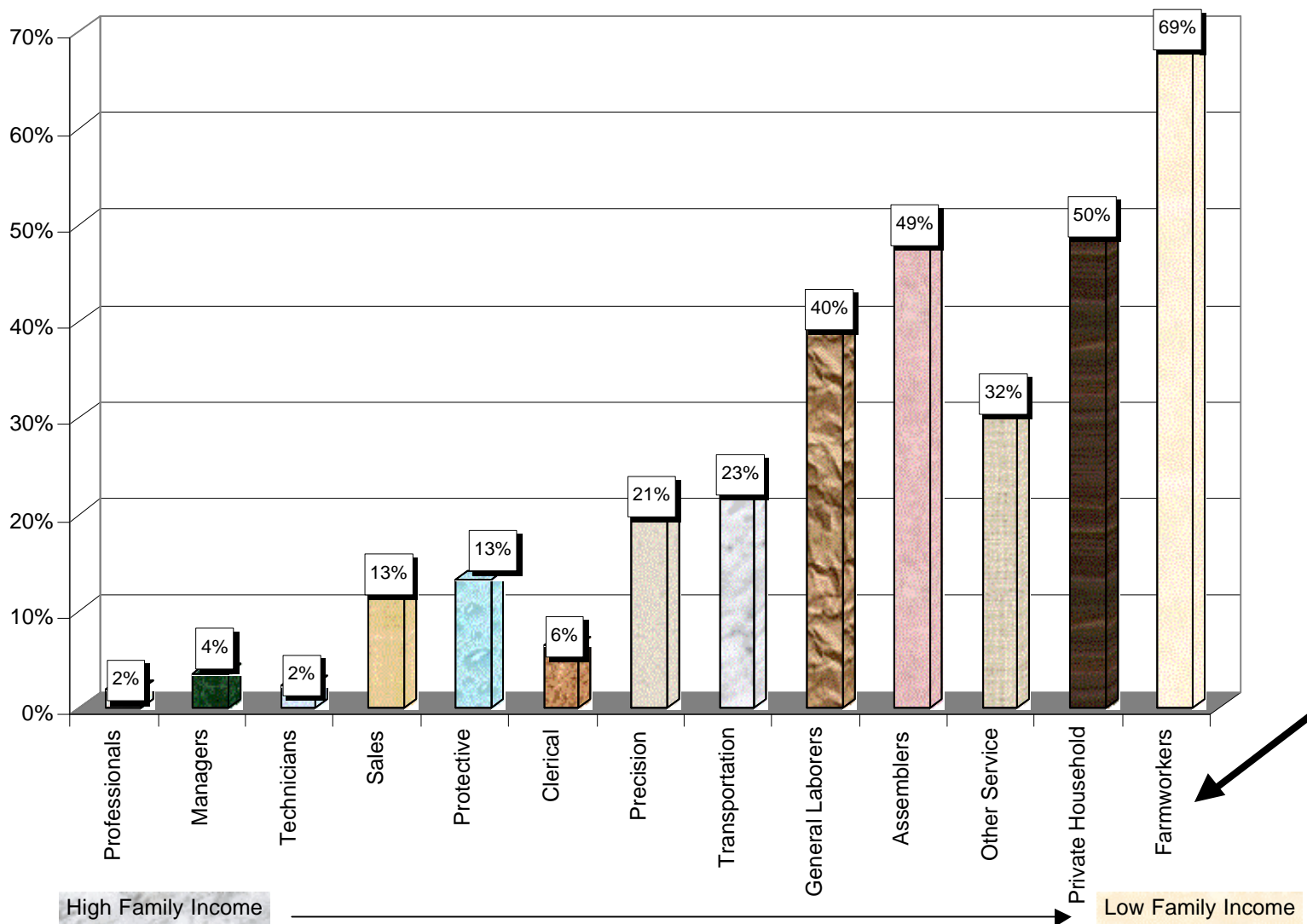


Chart 11

**Percent of Workers That Do Not Speak English Well or At All,
California 1990**

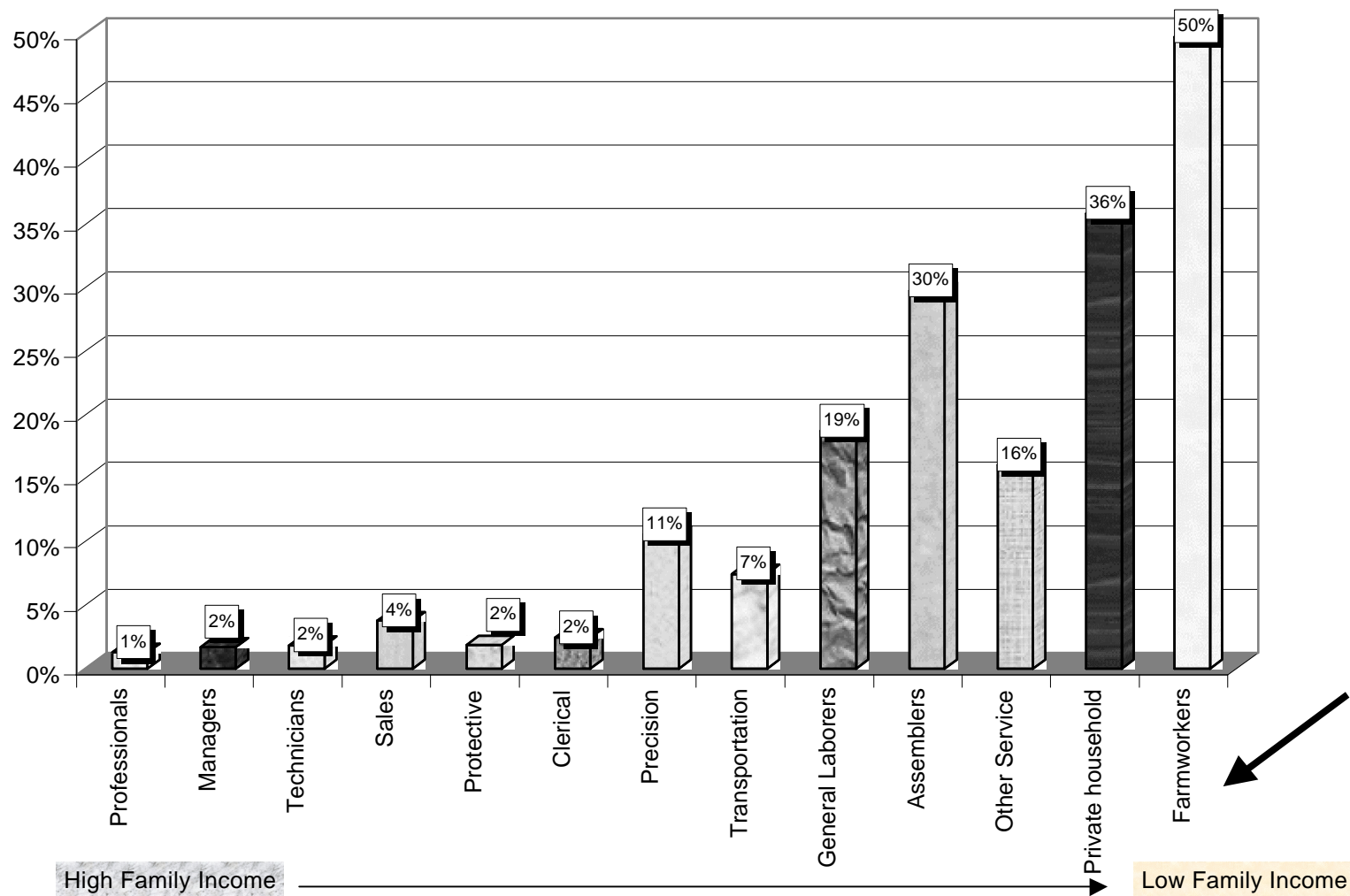
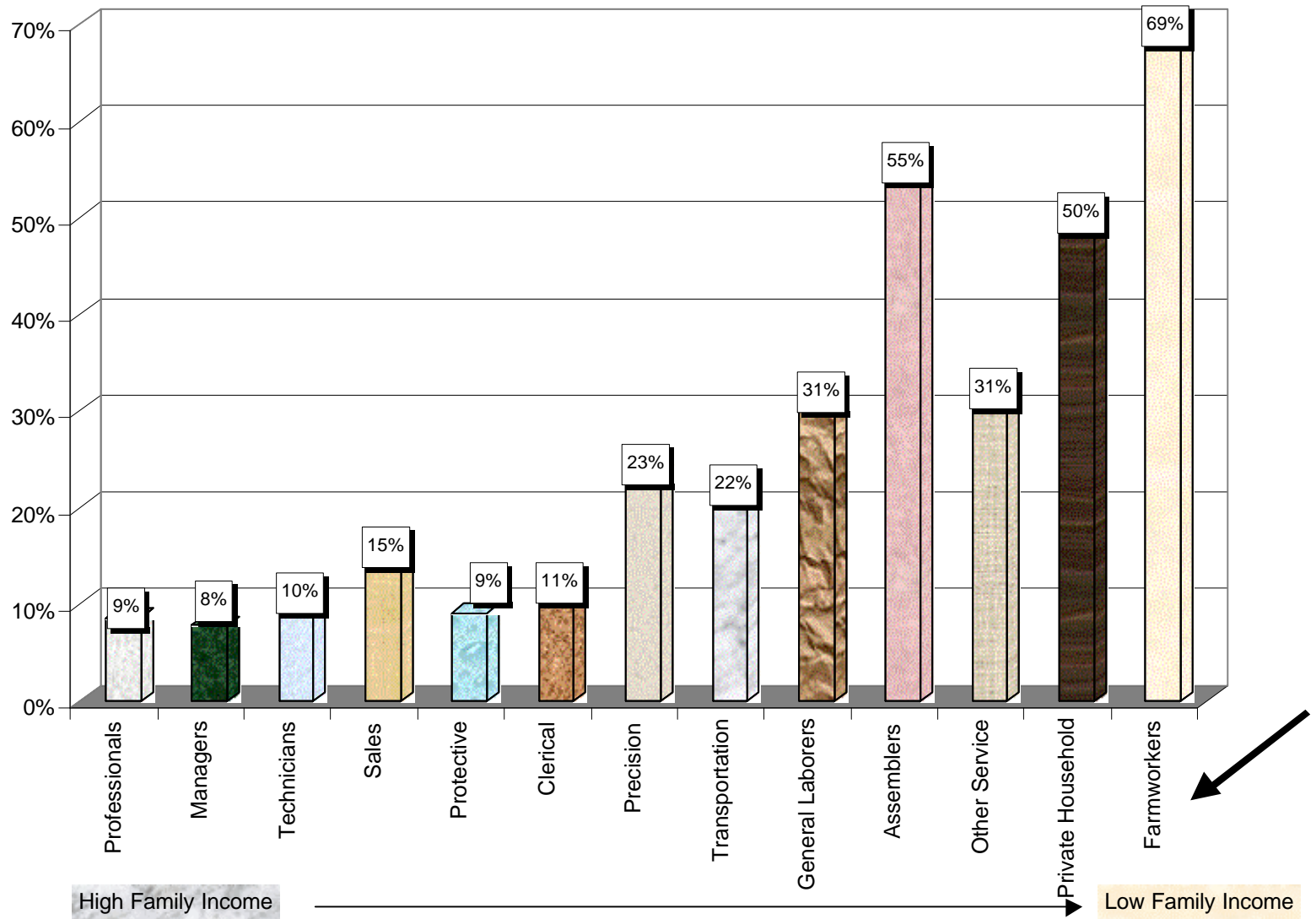


Chart 12

Percent of Workers that are not Citizens, California 1997



HOME OWNERSHIP AND MEDIAN RENT

Given their low family income, it is not surprising that farmworkers tend not to own a home and that they pay less in rent or mortgage.

According to Chart 13, the majority of workers in almost all occupational groups live in a home owned by the family. There are four occupations, however, that fall below the fifty percent mark. These occupations are private household (30%), farmworkers (38%), assemblers (43%), and other service (45%). At the other end of the occupational spectrum, close to 70 percent of professionals and managers live in a home owned by the family.

For those that own a home, farmworkers pay the least, paying \$473 per month. According to Chart 14, managers pay the most at \$962 per month.

The trend for those that pay rent is similar to those that own a home. Farmworkers pay the least with managers paying the most (see Chart 15).

A much more interesting way to present the information is to relate monthly rent to family income. Farmworkers and private household workers spend a disproportionate amount of their income on rent, 25 and 26 percent, respectively. In contrast, professionals only use up 11 percent of the family income to pay rent.

Chart 13

Percent of Workers Living in a Home Owned by the Family, California 1997

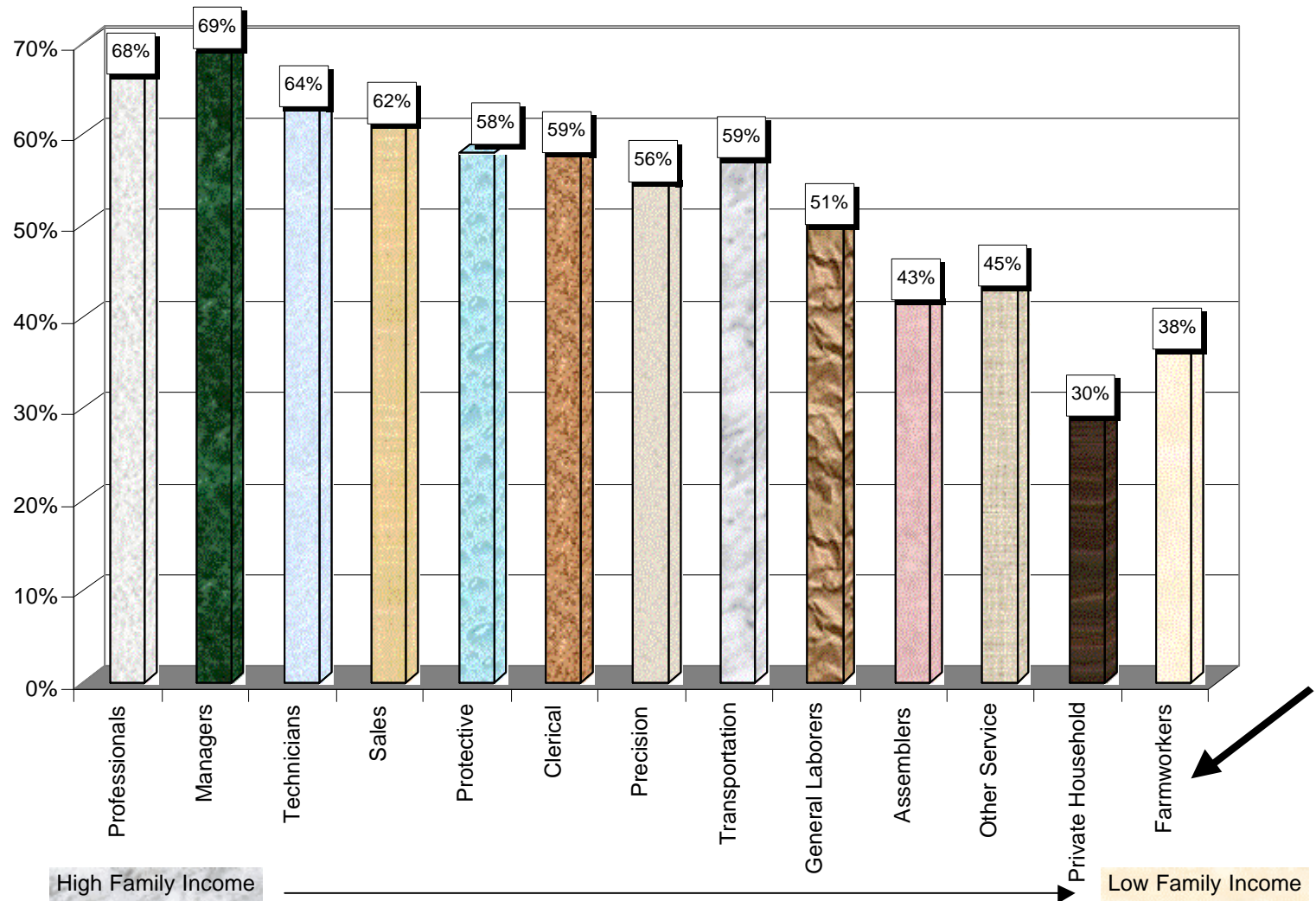


Chart 14

Monthly Mortgage Payment for those that Own a Home, California 1990

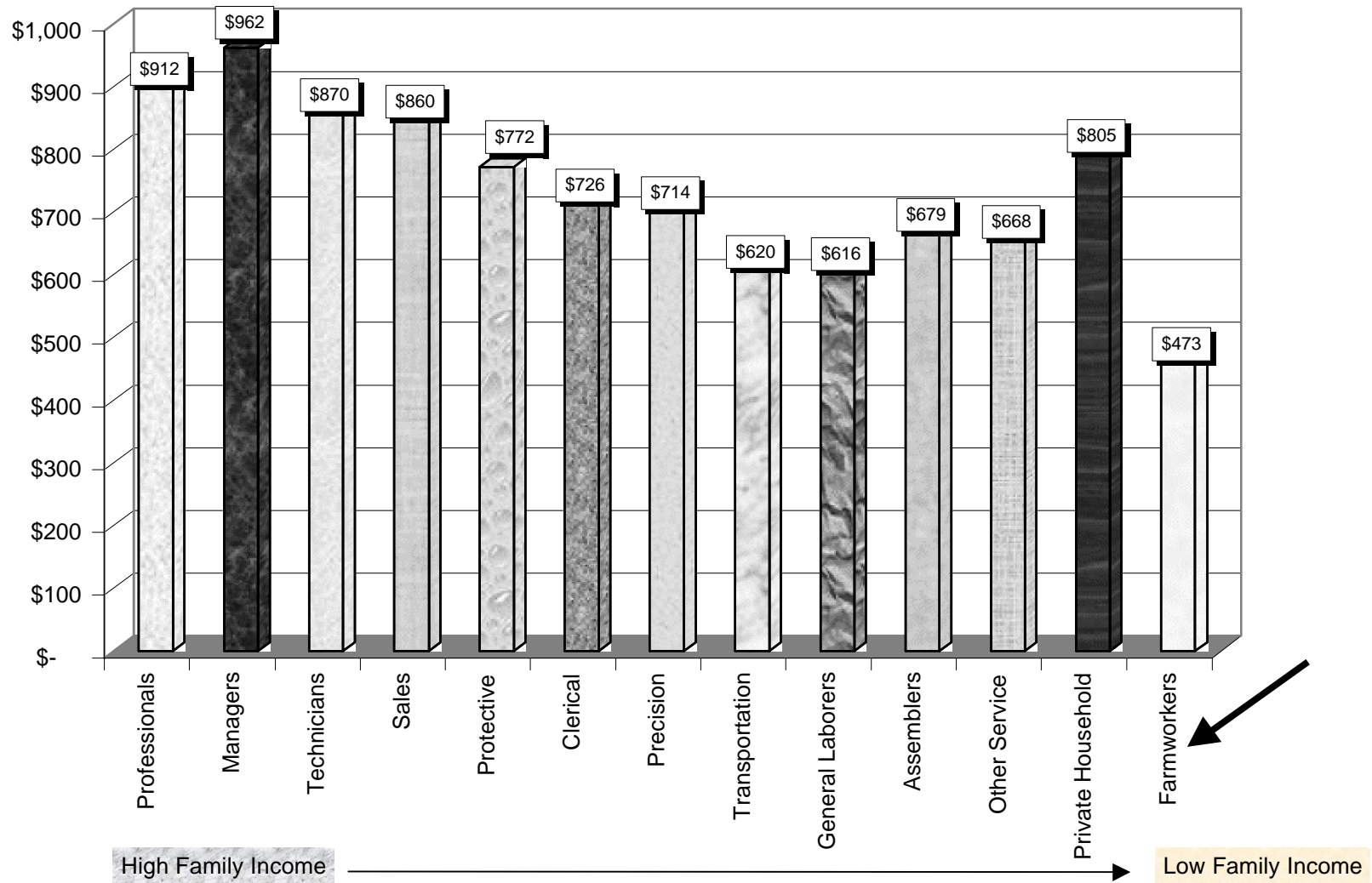
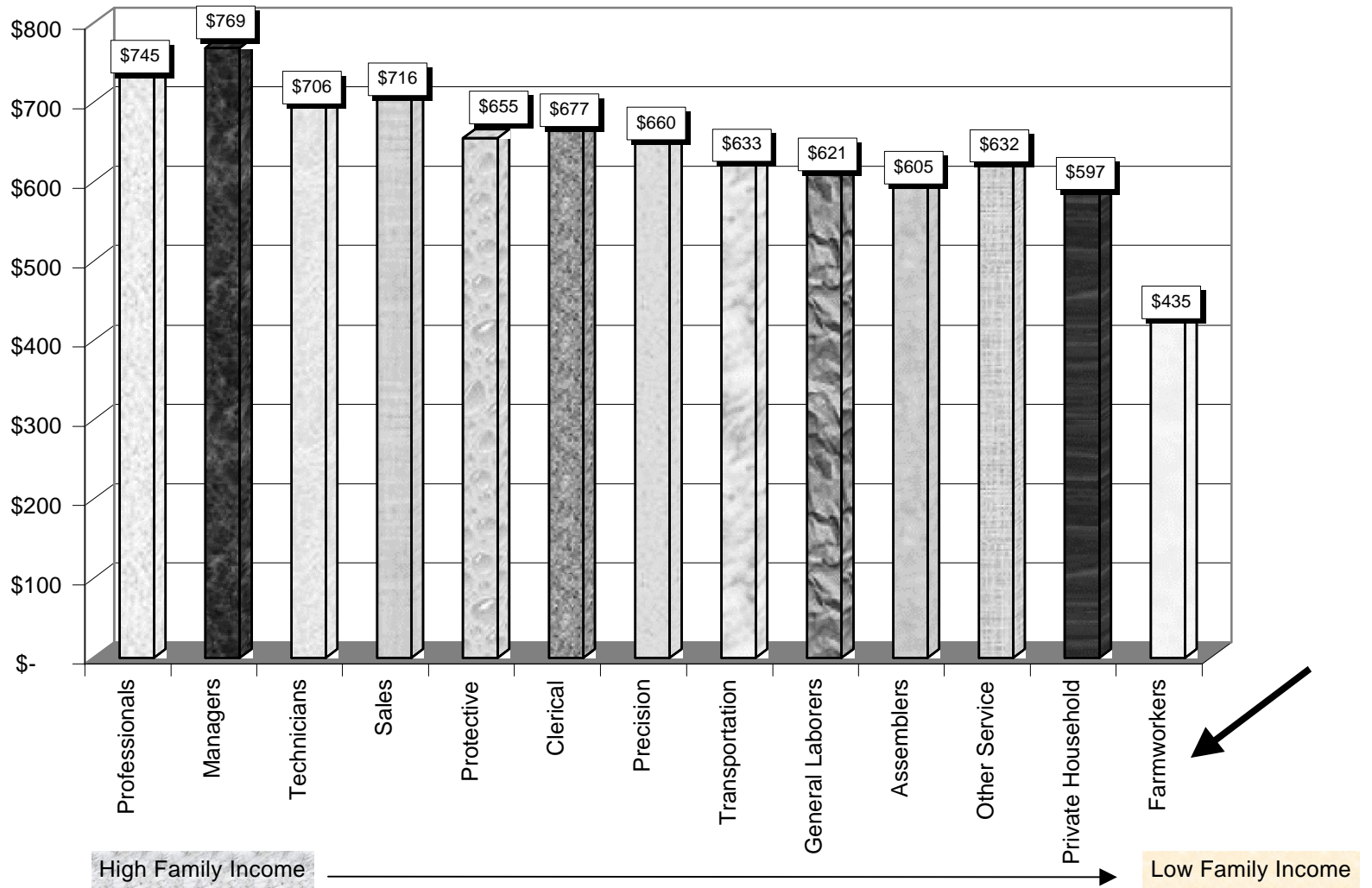


Chart 15

Gross Rent Paid, California 1990
(monthly rent plus average monthly cost of utilities)



ENDNOTES

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